

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF DECEMBER 4TH, 1935.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board of Public Works, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on Wednesday, December 4th, 1935.

Present:

Harry W. Nice, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Blakeman attended the meeting of the Board.

Senator Melvin appeared before the Board on behalf of the Hall of Records, and urged that the Board increase the allowance to the Hall of Records from \$15,000 to \$20,000, the latter amount having been promised to the Hall of Records Commission by the Governor at the last Session of the Legislature.

In reviewing this matter the Board called attention to the fact that it had previously allowed \$1,040. for salary for the new man to be employed in accordance with a request received from the Hall of Records Commission, and that it had also provided \$216.00 to take care of an increase in the salary of one of the employees from \$54.00 a month to \$72.00 a month, the status of the employee being changed from that of a janitor to a watchman. The additional amount recited added to the original allotment to the Hall of Records of \$15,000. increased the allotment to the Hall of Records to \$16,256.

The Board was agreeable to increasing the allotment to \$20,000. and therefore authorized the transfer from the Reserve Fund for 1936 to the appropriation to the Hall of Records of \$3,744. bringing the amount available to the Hall of Records Commission to the amount of \$20,000.00, originally requested by the Commission.

The Board also authorized the payment out of the Construction Fund for the Hall of Records for the cost of screens and files approximately \$5,300.00. The Board advised Senator Melvin that the screens and the files should be bought through the Central Purchasing Bureau so that the State would have the benefit of obtaining the best price on the equipment through competition.

The Governor brought to the attention of the Board a bill of the Heat and Power Corporation in the amount of \$2,556.00, and stated it was his desire to pay this bill out of the appropriation for repairs to the mansion in the Governor's budget, and asked if this plan was agreeable to the other members of the Board.

The other members of the Board stated there was no objection on their part to the Governor paying this bill out of his Budget Fund, and it was agreed that the bill should be so paid.

Mr. Harry K. Elgin of the Board of Plumbing Commissioners, appeared before the Board and requested that an allotment be made out of the Reserve Fund to the Board in the amount of \$500.00, as a contribution toward the expenses of the Board in the fiscal year 1936. In the past several years the Board has been receiving an appropriation of \$1,000. each year as a contribution toward the expenses of the Board, but in the budget for the fiscal year 1936 the contribution was reduced to \$500.00.

The Board of Public Works was of the opinion that the question should be held in obedience until it could be determined later in the year whether the fees to be received by the Board of Plumbing Commissioners would be sufficient to take care of the expenses, in which event it would not be necessary for the Board of Public Works to make an allotment out of the Reserve Fund.

Doctor Albert S. Cook, State Superintendent of Education, appeared before the Board in connection with the allotment the Board made sometime ago of \$87,500.00 for restoration of salaries out of the 1936 Reserve Fund. The previous action of the Board in this matter was that the \$87,500.00 would be distributed throughout all the counties. Doctor Cook, however, explained that the contributions made heretofore by school teachers did not benefit the State except as to the teachers in the Equalization Fund Counties, and that any restoration to be made by the State out of the Reserve Fund should in his opinion go to the counties sharing in the Equalization Fund.

The Board of Public Works was agreeable to Doctor Cook's suggestion, and ordered the previous resolution rescinded, and at this meeting authorized that the \$87,500.00 be allotted for restoration of salaries of teachers be distributed to the counties involved in the Equalization Fund.

Mr. Blakeman took up with the Board the question of securing additional funds for reconstruction of one of the Cottages at Montrose School for Girls. He stated the original amount allotted, namely \$7,500.00 was not sufficient, and that after going into the matter very thoroughly and eliminating some items, he found it would still be necessary to have \$850.00 to complete the job.

It was agreed that the Board would make this \$850.00 available from funds to be received from the Public Works Administration, arising from Grant made by the P.W.A. on construction work authorized by the Board out of the allotment of \$700,000.00 included in the Emergency Bond Issue of 1935, if and when these funds are collected from the United States Government.

Mr. Blakeman took up with the Board the question of allotting \$150.00 to the Maryland Public Library Commission for their 1936 Budget out of the 1936 Reserve Fund. Mr. Blakeman fully explained his reason for this, saying that the Budget originally had been very materially reduced, and that he felt it was necessary and desirable to allot this \$150.00 to the Commission for this fiscal year.

The Board approved the allotment.

The Board also had approved the making available at this time to the State Department of Health \$1,000.00 of the earmarked fund of \$5,000.00 set aside for the Health Department at a previous meeting of the Board, this money to come from the 1936 Reserve Fund.

Due to the fact that the Governor had to leave to keep an appointment, action on the resolution offered by Mr. Miles on budget matters was deferred until a later meeting.

The State Comptroller and Treasurer reported the purchase of \$25,000.00 of securities for the State Accident Fund. The securities are as follows:

\$25,000 Dept. of Water & Power of City of
Los Angeles, Electric Plant Revenue
Bonds, Refunding Issue of 1935, 4%,
Due December 1, 1955.

The following letter from St. Mary's Female Seminary was read and considered -

SAINT MARY'S FEMALE SEMINARY
Saint Mary's City, Md.

December 3, 1935.

Mr. J. O. McCusker,
Chief Deputy Comptroller,
Treasury Department,
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Mr. McCusker:

We are now ready to sink our new well as part of the sewerage and water project provided for by the Board of Public Works in their allotment to us of \$2500.00 on August 8th. My Board of Trustees has requested me to get for them some information in connection with same.

1. The Trustees have been investigating well diggers and have about decided upon what seems to be the best man for the job. Should they put out any special form of definite bid, and is their decision in the matter final?
2. Should the well digger be bonded?
3. Is there any other agreement to be entered into between the Trustees and the State?

I shall appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience and shall pass your letter on to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Very truly yours,
S. M. Adele France, Principal.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to the letter and advise that the Board desired the Trustees of the Seminary to get competitive bids for the work to be done. They should specify to the prospective bidders the work to be done, giving them the information usually made available to people bidding on work, and after bids are received to submit their recommendation to the Board of Public Works as to whom the Seminary should award the work. It was also though advisable to have the man to do the work bonded. It was agreed that there should be no other agreement entered into between the Trustees and the State. The institution is a State agency and funds for the work were made available by the State out of the Emergency Bond Issue of 1935.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a bill from Mr. Samuel Cascio, who kept the books of the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls at Glenburnie while Mr. Wm. H. Kirkman was Treasurer of that Institution. The bill is in the amount of \$250.00, and ordinarily would have been paid out of funds available to the School if there had been any surplus funds in the Institution's account. The Budget Director suggested that this bill be paid out of the unexpended part of the Reserve Fund for the fiscal year 1935.

The Board was agreeable to the suggestion, and authorized the payment accordingly.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter received from the Attorney General in which it was recommended that expenses incurred by Honorable Emanuel Gorfine, James A. McAllister, of Cambridge, and James M. Hepbron, all of whom are members of the Maryland Commission on Interstate Compacts, in attending the recent Convention at Trenton, New Jersey of representatives of the various States of the Union, be paid.

The Board approved the payment of these bills, totaling \$72.00, out of its Contingent Fund.

The following letter from Colonel James A. Pratt, Superintendent, Maryland Training School for Boys, was read and considered -

MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Loch Raven, Md.
Nov. 9, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Attention Mr. J. O. McCusker, Sec'y.

Gentlemen:-

The Diamond Castings Company, of Duboise, Pa., manufacturers of stokers for power plant service has approached us concerning the installation of stokers at the power plant at Maryland Training School for Boys.

The presentations of the Diamond Castings Company were reported at the meeting of the Board of Managers on November 7th, 1935, and authorization was granted to present this subject to the Board of Public Works.

The plan of the Diamond Castings Company involves the installation of stokers and the collection of payment for the same over an extended period of time. The plan of payment contemplates settlement with the stoker manufacturers on the basis of comparative savings in fuel which may be effected through the installation of stoker equipment. The unit of payment during respective months will be based on the difference in consumption of fuel and quality of fuel purchased for stoker operation as compared with the present operation using hand stoking. Thus for the month of January the payment would be relatively large, the month of August relatively small.

The cost of stokers and installation under two units, which would comprise the program, will probably amount to \$5,000. and payments will in all likelihood be spread over a period of three to four years.

Answers to the following questions are pertinent in considering this project:

1. Will the Board of Public Works authorize a contract under a deferred payment plan?
2. Is it appropriate under legal regulations to withdraw funds from the budget item appropriation for fuel to pay for stoker purchase and installation?
3. Will the Board of Public Works desire bids from other manufacturers than the Diamond Castings Company on this project?

It is the feeling of the members of the Board of Managers as well as myself that a saving can be effected by the installation of stokers under two units at our power plant while at the same time the instructional program as related to combustion will not be effected.

Very respectfully yours,

/s/ James A. Pratt,
Superintendent.

JAP/N

After a discussion of the matter the Board questioned whether it had a right to authorize the School to enter into a contract such as outlined in Colonel Pratt's letter, and instructed the Secretary to communicate with the Attorney General and ask him to advise if in his opinion it would be proper for the Institution, with the approval of the Board of Public Works, to make the contract outlined. In the event it is decided the State has a right to enter into such a contract, the Board is of the opinion that the School receive competitive bids for the equipment described by Colonel Pratt in his letter.

The following letter from Mr. John L. Dunkle, President, State Teachers College, Frostburg, Maryland, was read and considered -

STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
FROSTBURG MD.

November 6, 1935.

Mr. J. O'C. McCusker, Secretary,
The Honorable Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Mr. McCusker:

I am submitting the following unclosed accounts at the State Teachers College at Frostburg that are uncollectible and am requesting the Honorable Board of Public Works to authorize the canceling of those accounts in order that our books may be balanced. All of these students withdrew before graduation.

September, 1934 - Helen M. Campbell, 327 Williams Street, Cumberland, Maryland	\$10.00
September, 1931 - Nellie G. Close, Eckhart, Maryland	\$25.00
September, 1933 - Thomas Kyle, 75 Washington Street, Frostburg, Maryland	\$22.00
September, 1932 - Anne McAlpine, Dudley Street, Lonaconing, Maryland	\$18.50

Respectfully yours,

/s/ John L. Dunkle,
President.

JLD:EH

As the foregoing letter bears the approval of Albert S. Cook, State Superintendent of Education, after due consideration the Board approved Mr. Dunkle's request for authority to close the accounts from his books as uncollectible

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The following letter from General Milton A. Reckord to the Governor was read and considered -

STATE OF MARYLAND
Military Dept.
Annapolis, Md.

Headquarters Armory
Armory Place and N. Howard St.
Baltimore, Md.

November 14, 1935.

Hon. Harry W. Nice,
Governor of Maryland,
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Governor Nice:

Conforming to your instructions, made when I discussed the subject of additional funds for the 5th Regiment Armory with you a few days ago, I wish to give you the following information, with the request that you advise me that I may proceed with the knowledge that you will include in your next appropriation or bond issue the sum of \$50,000.00 for this purpose:

When the 5th Regiment Armory is completed it will represent a value of about \$1,600,000.00 but will actually cost the state only about \$750,000.00. The difference represents what I have been able to secure, in labor and material, from certain federal agencies. I will have a number of unpaid accounts for completion of the building; architects fees, furniture, etc., and desire to purchase some additional needed equipment for the regiment, so that the armory may be in all respects properly and suitably equipped.

I am confident I can do this with an additional \$50,000.00 and that I will have no trouble in financing same if I have a statement from you to the effect that this action has your approval and an additional \$50,000.00 will be included in the next bond issue.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Milton A. Reckord.

Major General,
Maryland National
Guard.

After a discussion of the matter the Governor stated that he did not have in mind at this time asking for a bond issue at the next session of the Legislature, and that he did not feel he should make any statement which would obligate or commit him or the Board of Public Works to authorize General Record to arrange for any financing for construction work in the 5th Regiment Armory with the expectation of an appropriation being made by the Legislature to take care of the cost of the work. The other members of the Board agreed with the Governor in his views in this matter.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a bill covering expenditures made by Howard K. Travers, American Consul at Southampton, England, on behalf of and at the request of Coleman Blum, Secretary, Maryland Commemorative Association, Baltimore, in connection with the celebration at Cowes in 1934.

The Board authorized the payment of this bill, to be charged to the 1936 appropriation of the Maryland Tercentenary Memorial Commission.

The following letter from the Crownsville State Hospital, dated November 27th, 1935, was read and considered -

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

November 27, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of The Crownsville State Hospital held at Crownsville on November 20, 1935, the following contracts were awarded to the low bidders subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works.

To the Marocco Construction Company, Inc. for the construction of sanitary sewers and appurtenances to the feeble minded group in the amount of \$6,267.37, based on unit price bids, and to the Baltimore Machine Works for the construction of water supply improvement in the water filtration plant for a lump sum bid of \$475.00.

The above to be charged against Bond Issues standing to the credit of The Crownsville State Hospital in the amount of \$13,500.00

We request your approval of the above action.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

/s/ Wm. P. Gundry
Secy.-Treas.

The members of the Board had informally given their approval to the request of Crownsville State Hospital that it be authorized to award the work covered by the letter of November 27th, and at this meeting formally approved the verbal approval heretofore given, and conveyed to the Crownsville State Hospital by the Secretary.

Chief

The following letter from the/Clerks of the various Courts of Baltimore City, dated November 23rd, 1935, was read and considered -

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALTIMORE CITY

BALTIMORE MD.

November 23, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
% Hon. Wm. S. Gordy,
State Comptroller,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

In view of the fact that the subordinate employees of the Several Courts in this city have been granted a

restoration of their salaries to what they were before the reduction made by the Budget of 1933, we the Chief Clerks of said Courts respectfully request that your Board grant to us a restoration of our salaries, beginning October 1st, 1935.

As you are aware, our salaries are fixed by statute, and the assent to the reduction in 1933-34 was voluntary upon our part, and, therefore, we respectfully submit, your Board can restore the salaries without violation of law.

Should there be a doubt, we request that you submit the matter to the Attorney General for his consideration and opinion.

Awaiting your advices, in the matter, we beg to remain,

Yours respectfully,

/s/ Harry S. Barry
Chief Clerk Superior Court

/s/ Charles F. Evans, Jr.

/s/ Peter Stevens
Chief Clerk Baltimore City Court

/s/ Harry W. Rodgers.
Chief Clerk Circuit Court

/s/ Charles A. McNabb
Chief Clerk Circuit Court No. 2.

/s/ William H. McElroy
Chief Clerk Criminal Court

The Comptroller suggested that it would be possible to restore the salaries of these clerks to the 1933 basis if we were to allow the Clerks of Court of the offices involved to pay the difference between the amount provided in the 1936 budget and the salaries which were in effect in 1933 out of the excess fees of offices of Clerks.

The Board was agreeable to the suggestion of the Comptroller, and authorized him to proceed accordingly.

The following letter from the Garrett County Teachers' Association, dated December 2nd, 1935, was read -

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF GARRETT COUNTY, MD.

OAKLAND

December 2, 1935.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

I have been requested by a number of teachers in our Garrett County public schools to express to your committee their appreciation for the recent partial restoration of teachers' salaries.

We are strongly of the conviction that education is a long term investment. As such, we must always be on the alert to give favorable consideration to any measure that has in mind the promotion of the interests and ideals of our public schools. The maintenance of a salary schedule for teachers that enables them to provide for themselves a decent stand^{and} of living is one step in the above-mentioned process. Your committee is to be commended for its forward looking step particularly when one considers the economic situation confronted by our state with respect to its sources of revenue.

We desire to have this letter read to the Board at one of its meetings.

We want to assure your committee of our desire to cooperate in any possible way.

Yours very truly,

/s/ W. J. Glenn

Garrett County Teachers' Association
By - W. J. Glenn, President

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of the letter and to thank the Garrett County Teachers' Association for it.

The following letter from Crownsville State Hospital,
dated November 26th, 1935, was read and considered -

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

November 26th, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

We are desirous of appointing Mr. Preston Bowles as an Engineering Inspector on construction of sanitary sewers for the Feeble-minded Group and improvements to water filtration plant at the Crownsville State Hospital. This is an emergency appointment covering a period of approximately three months.

Mr. Bowles has been engaged in this type of work at various periods under direction of the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering of the State Department of Health for the past ten years.

It is hoped that the approval of this appointment may be made at the earliest possible date as the bids for this work have been passed on by the Board of Managers subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF MANAGERS
CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

By: /s/ Robert P. Winterode.

The Board approved the request of Crownsville State Hospital that it be permitted to employ Mr. Preston Bowles as an Engineering Inspector on construction of sanitary sewers for the Feeble-minded Group and improvements to water filtration plant, as requested in their letter.

The following letter from the State Department of Forestry,

dated November 23rd, 1935, was read and considered -

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

November 23, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Frederick have executed a deed to the State of Maryland, offering as a gift 540 acres of land located at High Knob on the Catoctin Mountain in Frederick County, about six miles from the City of Frederick, with the assurance that if accepted approximately 1,000 additional acres will be added. This gift has been approved for acceptance by the Board of Regents, University of Maryland. The Attorney-General has approved the deed as to its form and legal sufficiency, but before final acceptance can be had, the approval of the Board of Public Works is necessary, and this should carry with it, specifically, the approval of the Governor to comply with Section 3, Chapter 823, Acts of 1914, with respect to gifts of land to the State. These lands, accepted by the State, are to be developed as a State Park, the development to be by a C.C.C. Camp operated entirely at Federal expense, similar to Fort Frederick at Big Pool, and the Washington Monument on South Mountain, which projects are now nearing completion.

I recommend acceptance of this gift, to be administered by the State Department of Forestry as a State Park, along with other state park areas now under its control, namely, the Patapsco, Fort Frederick and Washington Monument Park, each of which is now being intensively developed with the aid of the C.C.C. Camps operated through Federal funds. The same arrangement is proposed for the development of this new park.

The Park lands offered have been examined and appear to offer the following advantages for park use:

1. The location around High Knob, which has an elevation of 1600 feet, affords beautiful views across the Middletown Valley to the West and the Frederick Valley to the east. There is sufficient space for developing a recreational center to take care of 10,000 people.
2. It is very accessible, only 6 miles from Frederick by one road and about 7 by another. With the area to be acquired to the north added to the Park, a skyline drive can be built along the mountain that will connect with the excellent road system on the Frederick City watershed of 10,000 acres, and further on, with the Catoctin Recreational Area of 15,000 acres now being acquired with Federal funds under the AAA, to be developed with relief labor and turned over for administration to the Forestry Department.
3. It is believed that outside of the expense of a Resident Superintendent, the maintenance cost can be provided from income in rentals and concessions from special facilities to be provided under the development plan.

I hope early action may be had on this offer which seems particularly valuable in the development of a State Park system. I may add that another park area on Elk Neck in Cecil County is soon to be offered as a gift to the State.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. W. Besley,

State Forester.

FWB/1

After due consideration of the matter, the Board approved the request of Mr. Besley, State Forester, that the Department be permitted to accept the gift of 540 acres of land from the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Frederick.

The following letter from J. D. Blakwell, President, State Teachers College, Salisbury, Maryland, dated November 27th, 1935, was read and considered -

STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

Salisbury, Md.

November 27, 1935.

Mr. J. O'C. McCusker,
Office of the Comptroller,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

In accordance with your suggestion made to Mr. John J. Seidel of the State Department of Education some time ago, we secured three estimates on the value of the red Dodge and the Chevrolet truck, which we propose to sell Mr. J. B. Richardson, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.

The average of the three estimates made by L. W. Gunby Motor Company, Parsons Brothers Garage, and the Morgan Company, was \$125 for the red Dodge, and \$25. for the Chevrolet truck. If satisfactory to you, we shall sell these two cars to Mr. Richardson for a total of \$150.

A carbon Copy of this letter is being sent Dr. Cook for his information.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. D. Blakewell

President.

JDE:MWF

The Board approved the sale of the cars as outlined in Mr. Blackwell's letter.

The following letter from Mr. James A. Young, Clerk of the Court of Appeals, dated October 29th, 1935, which was held over from a previous meeting, was read and considered -

COURT OF APPEALS

Annapolis, Md.

October 29, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

I find that no provision had been made in the present budget for janitor service for the Clerk's office, notwithstanding the fact that when the budget was being prepared I asked for the same amount as had been appropriated for several years.

After the budget was finally passed with the janitor service eliminated, I naturally presumed that some arrangement was in the Governor's mind for handling this work.

Up to this time nothing has been done, and I now, respectfully, ask for an allotment of \$216.00 for 1936 which is the same amount as formerly appropriated; and further suggest that the janitor be continued under the Clerk's direction.

Very truly yours,

JAY/SJM

/s/ James A. Young.

The Board authorized the transfer of \$216.00 from the 1936 Reserve Fund to the Budget of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, so that Mr. Young might have this money available for the employment of a man to do the janitor work required in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

There being no further business the meeting
adjourned.


Secretary.